

# News

## Bail: Atuche, Ojo Know Fate Today

By Tunde Opeseitan,  
REPORTER, Lagos

A Federal High Court sitting in Lagos will today deliver its ruling on the bail application filed by the former managing directors of Bank PHB and Spring Bank, Francis Atuche and Charles Ojo, who are on trial for allegedly granting over N450 billion loans without collateral as well as mismanagement of depositors' funds.

Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) is prosecuting Atuche and Ojo before Justice Akinjide Ajakaiye on 26 charges relating to fraud and abuse of office.

The ex-bank chiefs were arrested by the operatives of the EFCC on October 16.

## Lagos Assembly Summons LSDPC GM Over Collapsed Building

By Akinwunmi King  
REPORTER, Lagos

Lagos State House of Assembly has invited the General Manager of the State Development and Property Corporation (LSDPC), Abiodun Oki, over a dispute between the corporation and tenants of a building that collapsed in So-gunro Estate, Ogba, two years ago.

The Assembly Committee on Human Rights and Public Petitions decided to extend the invitation to the LSDPC boss to clear issues involving the compensation to be paid the former occupants of the block.

# Accident Claims Four In Ogun

By Segun Adeleye  
Reporter, Abeokuta

No fewer than four persons died on the spot while 12 others sustained various degrees of injury when three vehicles collided at the Ogere end of the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway on Friday night.

Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) authorities said the deceased include three male and a female occupants of the vehicles while those seri-

ously injured, and on danger list at the Olabisi Onabanjo University Teaching Hospital (OOUTH), Sagamu, Ogun State, consist of eight males and four females.

Sector Commander, FRSC, Ogun State, Olu-Mike Olagunju, who spoke with our correspondent on the telephone on Saturday, said one of the three vehicles involved in the crash was pushed off the road into a ditch, resulting in the death of

most of the passengers in it.

The three vehicles involved in the accident which occurred at KM 66, around the Iperu Bridge, include a white Peugeot Station Wagon with registration Number BE 994 AKD, a white Mazda bus with registration number XN628 AAA and an unmarked yellow towing truck.

Olagunju confirmed that 16 people were involved in the accident, attributing the sad

development to the inability of the drivers of the vehicles to give sufficient space to one another.

"That kind of accident could have been avoided if motorists will be patient enough to give enough space to the next vehicle, either behind or in front. More so, the accident happened in the night. One of the vehicles involved was pushed into the ditch because the three of them were two close to one

another," he said.

The sector commander added that the unit commanders in Ogere and others around the areas supervised the rescued operation and that those who died have been deposited at the OOUTH mortuary in Sagamu.

Olagunju advised motorists to observe safety regulations on the road, saying extra care needs be taken especially during the ember months and at night.

## AC Opposes Sending Of Maths, Science Teachers To South Africa

Action Congress (AC) has expressed deep concern over the poor results recorded in the 2009 May/June West African Examinations Council (WAEC) and National Examination Council (NECO) examinations, saying the poor showing is symptomatic of a falling educational standard.

In a statement issued in Lagos on Sunday by its National Publicity Secretary, Lai Mohammed, the party also said it is even more concerned and alarmed that despite the poor results,

the Federal Ministry of Education has embarked on recruiting Mathematics and Science teachers to be sent to South Africa.

"It is nothing short of a misadventure at best, and downright sabotage of Nigeria's educational system at worst, for the Federal Ministry of Education to embark on the mass recruiting and shipping of qualified Maths and Science teachers in Nigeria to South Africa, at a time the rate of failure in Maths and the sciences in Nigeria is at an all time high.

"It is unconscionable that the

Nigerian government will be seeking to send qualified teachers, who are not even enough for Nigerian schools, to South Africa, with perhaps a better educational system and better results in similar examinations. What our government is doing in essence is expressly encouraging brain drain. This is unpatriotic and must be stopped today," the AC said.

The party said the issue involved is the very future of the country, which should not be reduced to a political game.

It noted that the results of the May/June 2009 WAEC as well as the last NECO exams were so poor that some councils in the country could not boast of one candidate with five credits, including English and Mathematics.

Overall, the AC noted that only about 10.53 per cent of those who sat for the NECO exams passed at credit level in five subjects, including English and Maths, just as only a quarter of those who sat for the WAEC exams had five credits including

the two key subjects.

"With this kind of result, the future of our country is in danger, just as the dream of propelling the country to the ranks of the 20 top nations by the year 2020 is in jeopardy. Yet, it seems only the Federal Ministry of Education cannot see this danger. Otherwise,

the ministry would not have embarked on this condemnable idea of depriving Nigerian schools the much-needed Maths and Science teachers," the party added.

# Police Kill Septuagenarian In Osun

By Gbenga Fatureti,  
CORRESPONDENT, Osogbo

Tragedy occurred at the weekend in Osogbo, Osun State, when a trigger-happy policeman shot and killed the father of newly wedded Jacobs Odedeji.

The late Pa Odedeji, a septua-

genarian, and members of his immediate family, were returning to Lagos from Oyan in Odo-Otin Local Government Area of Osun State where the wedding of his son took place when the incident happened.

The wedding and reception

of Odedeji's son, according to sources took place at Saint Peter's Anglican Church, Oyan.

Odedeji, however, met his untimely death when the driver conveying him and his family drove past other vehicles stopped by anti-riot policemen

at a roadblock mounted in front of the Osogbo Steel Rolling Company.

According to an eyewitness account, the policemen were said to have been angered by the attitude of the driver of car conveying Odedeji and they

pursued it to Otan-Efun area before opening fire on its occupants.

It was gathered that Odedeji died instantly while two other occupants of the vehicle sustained injuries and are currently receiving treatment at the Osun State Hospital, Asubiam.